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## SS leader Arthur Flake commemorated

By Tony Martin  
Associate Editor

Second in a series

The life and ministry of the late Mississippi Baptist Arthur Flake, widely accepted as the father of the modern Sunday School program, was acknowledged April 13 with a special celebration in his honor at First Church, Winona, where he served as a staffer and devised his famous formula for Sunday School growth.

Although Flake's plan was first implemented in the early part of the 20th century, virtually every Southern Baptist seminary student today is still required to study his formula for growth.

Members of the Mississippi Baptist convention Board (MBCB), who met earlier in the day at the church, were among the 450 attendees at the celebration.

"We are excited to be here," said Kiely Young, MBCB Sunday School Director. "We have a strong 'growth button' as Mississippi Baptists and our prayer is that we continue to grow not only numerically but spiritually."

Arthur Flake himself showed up — as portrayed in a one-man show by Jerry Mixon, former pastor of First Church, Winona, and current director of the MBCB Stewardship and Cooperative Program Promotion Department.

Mixon shared bits of Flake's personal history, and in the context of his Flake impersonation, warned that 85% of the churches in the Southern Baptist Convention are either at a plateau or are losing members. Only 14% are growing, he said, but only because of "sheep-swapping," or getting members from other churches. Only one percent are showing actual growth, he pointed out.

"We have the plan, but do we have the passion?" asked Mixon's Flake character.

MBCB Executive Director-Treasurer Jim Futral delivered the keynote message.



SUNDAY SCHOOL STEPS — Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson, shares the first step in growing a Sunday School, during the Arthur Flake Celebration at First Church, Winona, on April 13. (BR photo by Tony Martin)

"Everyone who has ever been a part of Sunday School has been a part of Arthur Flake's dream," Futral stated. "Flake saw that the Sunday School had a lack of direction, so he instilled his passion there. Tonight, we're not here to glorify Arthur Flake but the God that touched Arthur Flake's life."

Futral stated that one-half of Mississippi's population is not only unchurched, but unsaved. After a brief biographical sketch of Flake, Futral said, "It's going to take one thing to reach our state — not just Flake's formula, but how Flake spelled Sunday School growth: W-O-R-K. If we don't work, it's not going to happen."

"There's never been a Sunday School class that grew inside the four walls of the classroom," Futral pointed out. "Jesus sends us forth to sow the seeds."

While the convention board met earlier in the day, the MBCB Sunday School Department hosted two conferences:

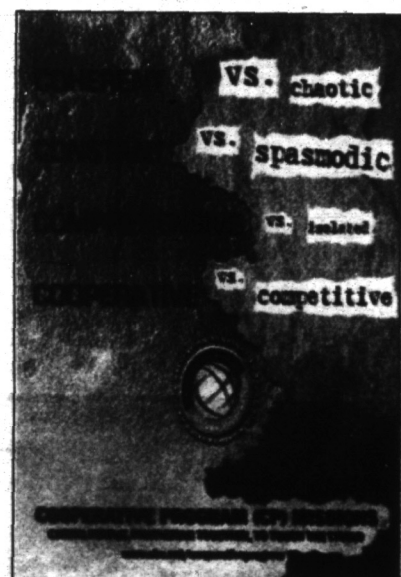
- A Coach's Guide to Sunday School, a Sunday School director's manual, was taught by John Clendinning, consultant in the MBCB Sunday School Department.

- During the concurrent equipment training meeting, led by Young, the new piece, Flake's Formula for the Future, was introduced. This revised and amplified version of Flake's 1922 classic, Building a Standard Sunday School, will be taught in churches statewide.

The interactive workbook includes sections covering the five functions of the church: worship, Bible study/discipleship, evangelism, ministry, and fellowship. The

book aspires to blend the implementation of these five strategies in the context of Flake's original formula, revised for a new century.

For more information, contact the MBCB Sunday School Department at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3291 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651 ext. 291. E-mail: cday@mbcb.org.



SPECIAL  
COOPERATIVE PROGRAM  
EDITION INSIDE

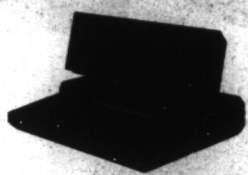


IN CELEBRATION — L. Graham Smith, church music director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, leads the combined choirs of several area churches during the Arthur Flake Celebration April 13 at First Church, Winona. More than 450 Mississippi Baptists gathered to commemorate Flake, a former staffer at First Church, Winona, who is widely considered the father of the modern Sunday School program. (BR photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)



INSIDE FLAKE — Jerry Mixon, stewardship director for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson, portrays Sunday School pioneer Arthur Flake during a celebration of Flake's ministry April 13 at First Church, Winona. (BR photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

## EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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# Pray like it's World War III

**M**any people born in the years after World War II are not aware that the debate in political and academic circles over what to name the war raged for years before World War II became the formal, accepted name. Likewise, World War I hasn't always been World War I. Before the name of World War II was settled upon, World War I was known as The Great War.

It seems that we often don't know we've been in a world war until long after its conclusion, and such a situation appears to be in the making even as this commentary is being written. Could we presently be in the midst of World War III?

It's not an exaggeration to note that war has indeed been openly declared verbally and in writing against America, western civilization, and all of Christianity, by the sinister forces of globally-organized secular and religious movements bent on our utter destruction — nothing less.

This present war has already claimed nearly 3,000 American civilians, during the first attack on American soil by a foreign belligerent since the War of 1812. This present war has resulted in the toppling of two radical regimes that were directly involved in the devastating events of 9/11, with more such actions to come.

This present war has resulted in the sad deaths of many brave and selfless American soldiers, who deemed it more important to take the fight the enemy on their own ground rather wait until the enemy had to be fought on American ground.

This present war inarguably has many of the earmarks of a world war. Yes, we are in World War III even if the name has yet to be settled upon and regardless of whether we choose to believe it or not. We'd best start acting like we're in a world war.



The soldiers in the field and their families know we're in a world war. We civilians back in the States, secure in our air-conditioned living rooms awaiting the start of another Major League baseball season on our big screen televisions, are the ones who seem to be having the problem believing it.

Beleaguered and outnumbered Christians in some of the planet's most hostile areas know we're in World War III. It's those of us sitting in our padded pews every Sunday, anxiously checking wristwatches while our ample bellies growl for the buffets awaiting us at our favorite restaurants, that have a problem accepting it.

It's time for Christians in general and Americans in particular to realize that the

outcome of this world war, like the outcome of the two world wars that came before, will literally determine the direction of the human race for a long time to come.

Will the forces of darkness succeed? Christians should be praying right now, as earnestly and heartfelt as in the worst days of any other war, that such will not be the case. Only God can deliver us.

If the Bible teaches us any lesson, it teaches us that those who rely on their own power will fail. There is only one power that can deliver us from this great evil called war, as we traverse a modern valley of the shadow of death.

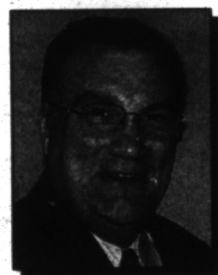
Pray for deliverance. Pray honestly. Pray hard. Pray for however long it takes. Just start praying now.

**P**erhaps you've seen the new advertisements for the Union Pacific Corporation. They suggest that the transcontinental railroad, first envisioned by Abraham Lincoln before the Civil War, has contributed immeasurably to binding our nation together. The 33,000 miles of steel and timber and the 48,000 people who work for the Union Pacific have been "on line" for over 140 years.

Southern Baptists have been "on mission" since 1845. Over 16 million believers organized into 45,000 churches form a network of witnesses committed to fulfilling the Great Commission. At least once a year we should pause to consider some of the factors which make us successful as Great Commissioners. First, the Gospel of Christ is marvelous. The power of grace, the invitation to receive forgiveness, and the hope of eternal life just cannot be overstated. Second, the presence of the Holy Spirit energizing our lives and binding us within the body of Christ empowers us to be effective servants. Third, the Cooperative Program has given Southern Baptists financial viability in a complex system of mission performance.

Is it fair to compare the Cooperative Program with the Gospel and the Holy Spirit? The answer depends upon our understanding of the Cooperative Program. If you

## GUEST OPINION:



### On Mission, On Line

By David Michel

Associate Executive Director for Missions Strategy  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

define the Cooperative Program simply as a financial accounting system for funding denominational efforts in missions, education, and benevolence, then the answer is no. But if we embrace the Cooperative Program as a dynamic collaboration through which our prayers, dollars, and spiritual intentions are creatively combined to turn the world upside down, then the answer is yes. A resounding yes.

The truth is that before 1925, when the Cooperative Program was first adopted, Southern Baptists were able to accomplish very little in world missions. Our mission agencies were in debt and our churches were inundated with solicitors making countless appeals for funds. When we agreed to build a missions collaboration by combining our offerings, then our effectiveness became apparent and our convention grew to the size of the largest evangelical mission-

ary sending denomination in the world. Our success is pegged historically to the financial decision expressed through formation of the Cooperative Program.

Although our historical effectiveness is indisputable, many church leaders today view the Cooperative Program as a legacy of the past. Long term leaders have lost enthusiasm for the Cooperative Program because it's not the freshest idea to come around the block. Other newcomers to Baptist life have not explored the details of how the Cooperative Program operates either from the perspective of historical importance or its missions functionality. As a result our collaboration is weakened if not placed in jeopardy of failing because we have lost sight of its value to keep us "on mission" in the twenty-first century.

Beyond the Cooperative Program's historical effectiveness, its interactive potential for

linking believers, churches, denominational agencies, missionaries, and unreached people is unlimited. No single church, regional association, state convention, or denominational agency can hope to deploy a world sized missions network alone. Yet, by combining resources and energies Southern Baptists field over 10,000 missionaries through the collaboration of 40 state conventions, 1,250 associations, and 45,000 churches. The combined strengths represented in the collaboration creates a missions infrastructure through which more than 100,000 short term volunteers serve around the world every year. This vast interactive enterprise is best described in the outdated terminology of the Cooperative Program. Maybe it's not so outdated after all.

Even though Union Pacific's railway system is over 140 years old it still delivers the freight. In the same way, the Cooperative Program still delivers the Gospel to a lost world with incredible effectiveness.

Cooperative Program Sunday in April offers us a chance to celebrate that effectiveness and to renew our commitment to a dynamic missions collaboration. Encourage your church to study the details of how Southern Baptists have worked together for the last eighty years and to find new ways of interacting on mission with Christ in the future.



# Whole Night for the Whole World

## Prayer effort aimed at lost youth worldwide

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — A network of youth ministries and missions organizations has issued a call to prayer challenging student groups across the world to spend a night in prayer for 2.1 billion teenagers, most of whom have never even heard the Good News of God's love.

A Whole Night for the Whole World, aims to unite millions of young people around the globe in prayer Saturday, May 29 for global revival in their generation, said Kelly Davis, a student mobilization consultant for the Southern Baptist International Mission Board.

"Everywhere I go, I meet young people whose hearts are broken over the lostness of their generation," Davis said. "A Whole Night for the Whole World is a call to reach this generation, in this generation, by this generation."

May 29 is the night before Pentecost, a time of great symbolism for Christians around the world, Davis noted. "Before His ascension, Jesus told His followers to assemble

and pray. It was during that time of prayer that the Holy Spirit came in great power, and the church was born."

Prayer is the first step toward a worldwide movement of God's Spirit among young people, said Richard Ross of Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth, one of the founders of the True Love Waits sexual abstinence program that has made a significant impact on young people around the world.

"In 1804 and 1805, prayer ignited revival among students in the Second Great Awakening and propelled thousands to the nations with the Gospel," Ross said. "A century later, in 1904 and 1905, prayer was a major factor in bringing revival among students in the Global Awakening — and thousands more were propelled to the nations with the Gospel."

"Now, another century later, I sense God is moving in an unusual way among students again. As we see students call themselves to worldwide prayer on May 29, we shout, 'Come, Lord, and do it again!'"

"The call to prayer is God's call, not man's," said Scott Kindig, youth ministry consultant for the Georgia Baptist Convention in Atlanta.

"I would be very uncomfortable calling this generation to pray a whole night for the whole world if it was just my idea," he said. "I am very enthusiastic about echoing a call that a more powerful and potent voice already has issued."

"God calls our students to pray without ceasing in 1 Thessalonians 5:17. He calls them to take up their crosses and follow Him in Luke 9:23. He calls them to go into all the world and make disciples in Matthew 28:19-20."

"Christian leaders simply echo a louder voice, and in calling for a whole night for the whole world, that is exactly what we are doing."

A night of prayer could bring an entire generation into alignment with God's heart for the nations and make a major difference all over the world, said Susie Lipps, director of "next generation" mobilization for <http://www.wynet.org>, Wycliffe's international youth network.

"A few years ago, a junior high group from Philadelphia took a mission trip to a town in Mexico. The kids were so struck by the spiritual and physical needs of the Tarahumara people group that they began to pray God would use them to reach them with the Gospel."

"They shared their vision with the leadership of their church, and the leadership got excited about planting a church among the Tarahumara. They discovered

that evangelism and discipleship was going to be difficult because the Scripture hadn't been translated into that language — but they didn't give up, because by then the whole church was on board with the vision of reaching the Tarahumara.

"To make a long story short, Wycliffe helped them get the Scripture translated and now this church is work-

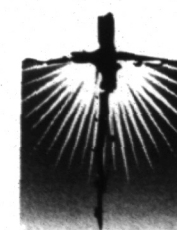
# Record

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BAPTISTS

### Day of Prayer slated

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — On Pentecost Sunday, May 30, Southern Baptists across America will unite in prayer asking God to help 43 million people in seven countries of the Arab world understand how much He loves them. Beyond the Wall: Loving the Peoples of the Arabian Peninsula, marks the 17th year for such a focused, 24-hour prayer effort, said Wendy Hines, associate director of the International Mission Board's prayer strategy office. The effort spotlights a different people group each year. The people of Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen are in need of Jesus, Hines said. "Believers are few, and the church is virtually nonexistent. Those who do follow Christ keep their faith secret in order to remain part of the community. Apart from the Holy Spirit's help, this will not change." A free resource kit for the emphasis is available in English, Korean and Spanish. The kit includes four video segments, a music video and a bonus Kids on Mission episode — in VHS and DVD formats — as well as a sermon outline and planning tips. Also available free of charge: a 30-day pocket prayer guide, bulletin inserts and brochures explaining how to pray more effectively for the peoples of the world. Free resources can be ordered at <http://resources.imb.org/index.cfm/fa/prodlist/CatID/2/DeptID/1.htm>. Other Internet resources include: <http://ime.imb.org/dayofprayer>, and <http://brw.imb.org>.

### Beyond the Wall:

Loving the Peoples  
of the Arabian Peninsula



### Looking back

#### 10 years ago

Home Mission Board directors adopt a statement condemning universalism in their annual spring meeting, while rejecting a request to study whether Masons should be prohibited from serving as home missionaries. "May this forever and eternally be very clear," said board chairman Brad Allen, following the unanimous vote to accept the statement.

#### 20 years ago

A tornado strikes Water Valley, taking out about half of the town, including homes, businesses, and most of First Church. According to Pastor Guy Reedy, "I realized from the noise I was in trouble," as he was in the church sanctuary at the time. Reedy escaped with only minor cuts and abrasions.

#### 50 years ago

James T. Shirley, chairman of the local publicity committee for the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in St. Louis, warns: "Men, leave your white shoes and Panama hats at home, else many a native will see you and say, 'Look, there goes another man from the south' ... White shoes and straw hats aren't worn much in St. Louis in June."

# Pickering: struggle is underway for future

By William H. Perkins Jr.  
Editor

His brutal treatment at the hands of opponents in the U.S. Senate during his confirmation hearings for a seat on the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has convinced Charles W. Pickering Sr. that a battle for the moral future of the country is underway.

"Make no mistake about it — there is a great struggle going on today for the hearts, minds, and souls of the American people," Pickering told the audience gath-

ered for the first Mississippi College Good Friday Prayer Breakfast April 8 on the Baptist-affiliated school's Clinton campus.

Pickering, a member of First Church, Laurel, and former two-term president of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, was assailed by liberals during his confirmation hearings for his religious beliefs and strong pro-life stance, and accused of practicing racism. Detractors even combed through his 40-year-old law school class work and his presidential addresses to the Mississippi Baptist Convention, in hopes of finding information that might derail his nomination by President George W. Bush to the seat on the Fifth Circuit.

Senate Judiciary Committee Democrats, who enjoyed a majority on the committee at the time of Pickering's first confirmation hearing, voted not to recommend him to the full Senate. When Republicans became the majority on the committee several months later and voted to recommend Pickering to the full Senate, Democratic filibusters prevented the full Senate from voting on the nomination.

Bush finally used his power of recess appointment to place Pickering on the Fifth Circuit, but Senate Democrats and liberal groups like People for the American Way — "the antithesis of any issue that might have the support of the Christian right," Pickering said — are expected to renew their opposition in the next congressional session.

Pickering, a U.S. District Judge for 12 years and the father of Mississippi Congressman Chip Pickering (R), said he endured a seemingly never-ending stream of requests for obscure documents. "Demands for documents came late in the evening or at the beginning of a weekend. I believe they were trying to make the process so difficult and unpleasant that I would withdraw," he said.

"The number one reason I was opposed was (my personal record of opposition to) abortion. Once the attack was made, I felt I had to defend my name, and what was happening was an abuse of the process," he said.

"I was criticized for one Bible quote in 4,000 opinions (as a federal judge). The Old Testament has been quoted no less than 15 times in Supreme Court decisions, including quotes from Justices Thurgood Marshall and Earl Warren," Pickering said.

"I decided, 'If I am confirmed, I will praise God. If I am not confirmed, I will praise God.' The thing that sustained me was my faith; the encouragement, support, and prayers of so many people; and knowing who I am," he said.

Pickering has declined to speculate on the fate of his judgeship when the Senate reconvenes and takes up the issue.

"Regardless of the outcome, I want to bring glory to God. Pray for America. Pray for unity of believers. Pray that the Gospel might be boldly proclaimed, undiluted, with love," he said.



MC ADDRESS — Mississippi College (MC) President Lee Royce (right) welcomes Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Charles W. Pickering Sr. of Laurel to the Baptist-affiliated school's Clinton campus for the first MC Good Friday Prayer Breakfast on April 8. Pickering was the keynote speaker for the event. (BR photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

## Baptist youth feel hunger, up close and personal

By Tony Martin  
Associate Editor

Since many Mississippi Baptist youth consider abundant pizza to be its own basic food group, it's hard to fathom why kids would voluntarily go without food for an extended period.

"Some of our friends heard what we were doing and thought we were crazy," said Rachel Dillard a member of First Church, Greenwood.

Crazy or not, about 100 youth from First Church, Greenwood; First Church, Itta Bena; Immanuel Church, Greenwood; North Carrollton Church, North Carrollton; and North Greenwood Church, Greenwood, pledged to go without food for 30 hours on February 27-28.

The 30 Hour Famine, an annual event coordinated through World Vision, allows students to make a significant

impact on the problem of world hunger. The youth not only raised money to help combat world hunger, but also gained a deeper understanding of how it feels to experience hunger.

Kevin Smith, minister of music at host Immanuel Church, heard of the event through a brochure, and was persuaded that by combining the resources of other local churches that a significant amount of money could be raised.

The event began Friday after lunch, the last meal before the event. The students enjoyed worship services Friday evening with a live praise band; heard a former missionary to Africa; played games; watched videos; and participated in other activities. A touching funeral service was held to mourn the loss of the 29,000 children who had died that day to hunger and hunger-related diseases.

Saturday morning was spent in prayer and devotions before the group split into 10 community service teams. One team sorted food at the associational office and cleaned the Salvation Army's church building. Two teams conducted canned food drives in front of local grocery stores two teams conducted a door-to-door food, clothing, and toy scavenger hunt. Two teams went door-to-door offering free yard raking. Two teams conducted free car washes. The culmination came at 6:30 Saturday evening, when the fast ended and the kids were allowed to eat.

"Fasting is taught in the Bible," said Mary Kathryn Fondren, a member of North Greenwood Church. "We had pictures of the kids we were hoping to help, and that really got to some people."

"We wore name tags that had the pictures of the kids, said Sara Clark, a member of North

Carrollton Church. "My kid's name was Oscar, and I was able to pray for him all weekend."

Mandie Land, a member of First, Itta Bena, said, "I still have my name tag. I still pray for Edison but he may have already starved to death. We'd do this all again in a heartbeat."

"If you're a part of a youth group, then I'd really encourage you to do this," said Amanda Brown, a member of Immanuel Church. "It really gave us a taste of what these kids go through all day."

Other personal testimonies collected at the end of the event were just as positive. "I have everything you could possibly ask for and don't appreciate it," wrote one youth. "I realize how truly blessed I am."

Another youth wrote, "This experience has humbled me in a way only God can do. This fast has given me a hunger to do more for the less fortunate."



HUNGER RELIEF CAMPAIGN — Over 100 students from five churches in the Greenwood area fasted for 30 hours, collected pledges for World Vision hunger relief, and participated in community service work during the 30 Hour Famine, hosted at Immanuel Church, Greenwood, on Feb. 27-28. The group raised over \$17,000 for world hunger. (Special to the Baptist Record)

## NO CHOICE

Sometimes, when we are faced with decisions we have the luxury of time, thought, and contemplation in an effort to discover what we ought to do and what would be the wisest course of action. Wisdom dictates that we do that often and that we not just act in haste and panicky reaction. Yet, there are other times when you have no choice but to act immediately, decisively, quickly, and hopefully you are helpful. For instance, not long ago I was watching some skydivers — you know, the folks that jump out of airplanes and sail through the air for a few seconds. In just a brief period of time they must act. They had better pull the ripcord and release the chute or they will be, at best, in serious trouble and at worst, only a memory. You have no choice but to act and do immediately what needs to be done.

A number of times I have been in a gathering of people where someone right near me has had a heart attack. When that happens somebody with at least some degree of medical expertise needs to act. On every occasion I have tried to do my part. I have helped others who had more knowledge and were better prepared to do everything that could be done to save a life. Yet, in that setting, there is no choice but to do what needs to be done and do it NOW!

All of that is to say that there are times when urgency is the priority. Among many of us as believers and too often in many of our churches there is a void of urgency. We have an overabundance of apathy, and a



## Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer  
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

depletion of urgency. Often our pastors preach with passion, conviction, and a call to action only to receive a response of a huge collective yawn!

I really believe that most of us think that whenever we hear the Word of God and it impacts our hearts, challenges our lifestyle, and calls us to obedience, that we are supposed to simply take it under advisement as to whether or not we want to do anything about it. God help us for that is not the Biblical response that we should give at all! We have no choice but to act and to do what God is asking us to do. It is not a matter of praying about it, thinking about it, wondering about it, or waiting to see what others do about it — it is time to act or the opportunity may be lost!

Oh, that God would stir within our hearts and that there would be a wind of glorious urgency that would sweep across our churches and that we who feel a somewhat spiritual apathy might be convicted and indeed captured by God's glory. When Jesus took Peter, James, and John upon the Mount of Transfiguration and they were privileged to see the breakthrough of the glory of Jesus as His face began to shine and His raiment became as white as the light, if that had

been most of us, we would have gotten there two days later only to have heard that something had happened. We would have wondered why they didn't wait on us.

In this day and time God is evidently, unquestionably, and gloriously at work and it is imperative that the church, as the corporate body of Christ, move into the "no choice" zone of responsive, obedient, ready-to-do-His-will zone of life.

Allow me to share with you here three "no choice" points of Christian living:

- If God speaks to you, you must act or react. God's call to your heart demands your attention whether that call comes clearly through His Word, or is shaped by the circumstances of life, or is a clear impression of His Spirit in your heart, or even a combination of the above. The believer is brought into the "no choice" area of living. Just a relaxed walk through Scripture brings you again and again to saints hearing from God and standing at the "no choice" point: Abraham to leave Ur of the Chaldeans; Moses to obey God at the burning bush; Jonah to go to Nineveh; Matthew to leave the receipt of customs; or Jesus praying in the garden.

Many who are reading this

may recall when you felt the call of the cross to be saved, or you may remember the unusual experience of God calling you to serve. The dilemma of delay is two-fold. Sometimes putting it off is only a mask for refusal and sometimes the well-meaning delay results in missed opportunities.

- A second aspect of the "no choice" arena of Christian living has to do with the future. If you are going to serve God it is going to be in the future. Do you realize that none of us, not one, can do one thing for the Lord in the past! Everything that God is going to do with you, for you, through you, and for His glory is going to be in the future. Yet, many saints have been encapsulated in the past. It really does not matter what part of the past holds you whether it is the painful memories of a bad experience, or the glorious thoughts of great success, if you are caught in the web of either you are stymied by the past and are of little use to the future.

From this very moment every witness that will be born, every missionary that will be sent, every dollar that will be given, every battle that will be fought, every song that will be sung, every sermon that will be preached, every kindness that will be expressed, and every kingdom advance will take place in the future. We had better get there and not wait long in doing so.

- One final thought about living in the "no choice" zone is to remember that if we are going to serve God our service will begin, continue, and culminate in a living relationship with Jesus Christ! So let's make the choice and go with Him!



## Touch Louisville kicks off multihousing ministry

LOUISVILLE, Miss (Special) — The Touch Louisville Multihousing Ministry got off to a great start at their first event April 10, with an Easter Egg Hunt for the children who live in and around Eiland Plaza and Twin Pine Apartments in Louisville. There were 63 children who registered at Eiland Plaza to play games, listen to the story of the resurrection of Jesus, hunt Easter eggs, and enjoy refreshments. Twin Pine Apartments had 15 children who did the same activities on the grounds of the Winston Association in Louisville.

Two months ago Tim and Lori Burt, members of South Louisville Church, Louisville, heard a presentation during a conference at Lake Tiak O'Khata by Chris McNairy, a multihousing missions specialist with the North American Mission Board in Atlanta. The conference was sponsored by the Church Planting Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board in Jackson, and Winston Association in Louisville.

Multihousing ministries consist of apartment complexes,

manufactured housing, public housing, and senior housing. McNairy shared many astonishing statistics in regard to the number of unchurched people who live in multihousing environments. It is estimated that 90% of those who live in multihousing areas do not attend church. The concept behind multihousing ministry is to take church to the people.

At the February 19 conference, McNairy said, "Many multihousing communities easily have 2,000 residents or more. When the International Mission Board discovers a new people groups of 2,000, what do they do? They get a missionary to go there. We have to recognize the people groups right here in our midst and minister to them."

For more information on Touch Louisville, contact the Burts at (662) 779-0616 or email [touchlouisville@yahoo.com](mailto:touchlouisville@yahoo.com). The Burts are also available to speak at church and club meetings and have a website at [www.geocities.com/touchlouisville.com](http://www.geocities.com/touchlouisville.com).

For more information on multihousing ministries and church planting in Mississippi,

contact Ed Deuschle, Church Planting Director, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-

0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3224, or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 224. E-mail: [edeuschle@mbcb.org](mailto:edeuschle@mbcb.org).

TOUCHING LIVES — Carol Wilson (standing, right) of Louisville, a volunteer with Touch Louisville multihousing ministry in Louisville, explains the Resurrection Egg story children who live in Twin Pine Apartments in Louisville. Toni Swindoll (standing, left) looks on. (BR special photo)



## JUST FOR THE RECORD



Hartley, Summerhill, pastor; and Milam

**Leesburg Church, Morton,** will host The Cross Ministry Inc., a multimedia dramatic presentation to demonstrate the details of the crucifixion, April 25 at 10:45 a.m. For more information, call (601) 854-5306.

The **India Children's Choir** will be in concert at First Church, Newton, April 25 at 6 p.m. The choir, on a 10 month tour of the United States is composed of 21 children from the Hmar tribe, will present From Head-Hunters to Heart-Hunters. For more information, call (601) 683-2066.

The **Pro-Life Mississippi Banquet** will be held April 29 at 7 p.m. at First Church, Jackson. Scott Klusendorf, lecturer on bioethics, Focus on the Family Institute, will be the speaker. The banquet will be preceded by a silent auction to raise funds for pro-life activities around the state. Tickets are \$20 and are available by calling (601) 956-8636.

**Goodyear Church, Picayune,** will host a Beth Moore Live Simulcast May 15 from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tickets are \$15 and lunch is available for \$5. The deadline for tickets is April 30. For more information, call (601) 798-6193.

The women's ministry of **First Church, Louisville,** will hold a Beth Moore Live Simulcast May 15 from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. To register, call (662) 773-6246.

The Senior Adult Women's Sunday School of **First Church, McLaurin** sponsored a kitchen shower March 30.

The members of **Bethesda Church, Jefferson County,** collected \$1,090 for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Bethesda surpassed their goal by \$140. Carl Mason is pastor.

**First Church, Cleveland,** exceeded their Lottie Moon goal of \$30,000 by \$559.54 dollars in January. The Annie Armstrong goal was \$5,400 and gifts have also surpassed the offering for a total of \$7,665.53. Jerry Mixon, MBCB, is interim pastor.

**Corinth Church, Tallahatchie County,** held a deacon ordination services to install two new deacons March 14. Pictured (from left) are Mark Hartley, Dax Summerhill, pastor, and Jerry Milam.

**Salem, Kemper:** Homecoming May 2; worship, 10:30 a.m.; a pot luck dinner will be served; Jeffrey Creekmore and The Southern Heritage, singing; Jerry Jones, pastor.

**Harmontown, Como:** Tent Crusade May 2-5; music begins nightly at 6:30 p.m. and the Crusade begins at 7 p.m.

**Ethel, Attala:** Revival April 25-28; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Wayne and Tina Hudson, Complete in Christ Ministries, will lead services; all are welcome; nursery will be provided; for more information, call (662) 674-5211.

**Grace, Philadelphia:** Revival April 26-28; Mon.-Fri. 7 p.m.; Danny Lanier, guest evangelist; Chris Vowell, interim pastor.

**Trinity, Philadelphia:** Revival April 26-28; 7 p.m. nightly; Jimmy Porter, MBCB, evangelist; Charlie Womble, Beacon Street, Philadelphia, music; Wayne Hill, pastor.

**Faith, Jackson:** Revival April 25-28; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 6 p.m.; Jerry Mixon, MBCB, evangelist; Patton Rice, music

director; the church meets in the chapel portion of Wesley Biblical Seminary; Greg Wolfe, pastor.

**Immanuel, Cleveland:** Revival April 25-28; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., noon and 7 p.m.; Don Taylor, Harvest Time Ministries, Conehatta, evangelist; Ronnie Cottingham, Just Jesus Ministries, Lucedale, music; Tommy Arinder, pastor.

**Bethel, Columbus:** April 25-28; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Ron Harrison, East Side Church, Pearl, evangelist; John Mark Jolly, Cullman, Ala., music; Walter Butler, pastor; nursery will be provided; for more information, contact (662) 327-2111 or bethel\_baptist@msn.com.

**Carson Ridge, Ethel:** Revival and Homecoming

April 22-23, and 25; Thurs.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m. with a picnic lunch to follow; Roy Hawkins and Adam Blair, preaching; Megan Walters, Ole time Hymn Singing, music; for more information, contact (662) 674-5529 or carsonridge@bell-south.net.

**Union, Raleigh:** Centennial Celebration May 30; worship, 10:30 a.m.; for more information, call (601) 782-4599.

**Beat Line, Conehatta:** 100th Anniversary April 25; Sunday School, 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.; a fellowship meal will be provided following the congregational singing and greeting by former pastors; Benny Buckley, former pastor, preaching; Royce Richardson, song leader; Vicky Davis, pianist; Mike Everett, director NCBA, will present the certificate; all are welcome.

## STAFF CHANGES

**Trinity Church, Jones Association,** called **Stephen C. Smith**, as pastor effective March 21. He previously served at Providence Church, Jayess. Smith attended South Eastern Baptist College, Laurel; Theological Seminary, Jacksonville, Texas; Luther Rice Seminary, Lithonia, Ga.; Andersonville Baptist Seminary, Camilla, Ga.; and Southern Baptist School for Biblical Studies, Jacksonville, Fla.

**Yandell Road Church, Gluckstadt,** has called **Josh Dear** as minister of youth/associate pastor. Dear attended Belhaven College and Beeson Divinity School. He is involved in Mission Mississippi and is co-authoring a book with Dolphus Weary, executive director of Mission Mississippi. Yandell Road Church has also called Gwen Burgess, Ridgeland, as accompanist. Author Comans is pastor.

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**CASTLEWOODS BAPTIST CHURCH** in Brandon, MS is seeking a mature christian individual or couple to make a long-term commitment to serve as youth leader(s) on a bi-vocational basis. Please mail your resume to: 175 Stonecastle Drive, Brandon, MS 39047 or email paula@castlewoods baptist.com.

**GRANDVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH,** 900 S. Pearson Road, Pearl, Miss., seeks bi-vocational minister of music. Call (601) 939-4215.

**WEST LAUREL BAPTIST CHURCH,** is accepting applications for full-time pastor. Masters degree and five (5) years experience preferred. Send resume and letter of interest to: West Laurel Baptist Church, 1400 W. 5th Street, Laurel, MS 39440, attn: Mel Odom, by May 29, 2004.